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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Nadkarni, S. *et al.* ) ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: C-3362/0/US  
S )  
SERIAL NO.: 09/731,349 ) GROUP ART UNIT: 1615  
S )  
FILED: December 6, 2000 ) EXAMINER: S. Oh  
S )  
TITLE: VALDECOXIB COMPOSITIONS  
S )  
DATE: February 18, 2002

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this communication is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on 18 FEBRUARY 2003.

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED NOVEMBER 19, 2002

This communication is responsive to the Office Action dated November 19, 2002 in the above-referenced application. Further examination of the application is respectfully requested after entry of the amendment proposed herein.

Response is made within the three months shortened statutory period for reply set in the Office Action and no fee is believed payable in respect of this communication. However, if it should be determined that a fee is payable, authorization is hereby given to charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 19-1025.

AMENDMENT

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel Claims 11 – 17 and 18 without prejudice.

Please amend Claim 1 as follows.